Darien Public Schools

Department of Health Services

EXCLUSION GUIDELINES

Chickenpox	Exclude for 7 days from the appearance of the first vesicular eruption or until vesicles on exposed parts of the body have disappeared or dried.
Conjunctivitis	Exclude if purulent discharge is present until treatment has been initiated by a health care provider (HCP), or the HCP elects not to treat and clears the student to return to school.
Coxsackie virus (Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease	No exclusion unless the child meets other exclusion criteria, such as fever accompanied by behavioral changes.
Diarrhea	Exclude if stool cannot be contained in a diaper, causes toileting accidents in toilet-trained students, or interrupts the learning process. Exclude and seek treatment for all cases of bloody diarrhea. Readmit when the student no longer has toileting accidents.
German measles (Rubella)	Exclude for 7 days from the appearance of the rash.
Impetigo	Exclude until the student has been on antibiotic treatment for 24 hours (and lesions are loosely covered), or until the infected area is completely dry. Widespread impetigo requires an HCP note for readmission.
Measles (Rubeola)	Exclude for 5 days after the appearance of the rash.
Meningitis	Exclude immediately upon suspicion and until the student is cleared to return by an HCP.
MRSA	Exclude only if the sore is draining and cannot be covered.
Pediculosis (Head lice)	No exclusion, but strongly encouraged to complete one course of OTC treatment before the student returns to school. See DPS lice guidelines for additional information.
Ringworm	Exclude until treatment is initiated by an HCP. For school attendance, treatment for ringworm of the scalp must include systemic antifungal therapy.
Scabies	Exclude until treatment is initiated by an HCP.
Streptococcus (Strep Throat, Scarlet Fever)	Exclude during the first 12 hours of antibiotic treatment, as prescribed by an HCP.
Tuberculosis (Active)	Exclude in the following situations 1) while awaiting Mantoux test results, 2)a positive Mantoux test until active disease is ruled out 2) active disease until treatment is initiated and the student is approved to return by local health officials.
Pertussis (Whooping Cough)	Exclude until the first 5 days of a full course of antimicrobial treatment have been completed.
Shingles	Exclude only if the rash cannot be covered until lesions are crusted.

Resources: American Academy of Pediatrics: *Managing Infectious Diseases in Child Care and Schools ,Second Edition* (2017) DPS Nursing Services – Rev. 7/14/2026

Vomiting	Exclude 1) if vomiting occurs more than two times in 24 hours, unless due to a known non-infectious condition. 2)if vomiting is associated with fever. Students should remain home for 24 hours after vomiting and/or fever has resolved.
Other	Other infectious diseases: Exclusion decisions will be made on an individual basis by the school nurse in collaboration with the Director of Health Services and, when warranted, the School Medical Advisor.

Please note that any child who is unimmunized may be subject to further exclusion based on the specific outbreak